

## **ABSTRACT**

Techniques are provided for using an authentication proxy server for a destination server to authenticate the identity of the user of a client system based on a digital certificate and a user password. The authentication proxy server also cryptographically associates a digital signature with hardware of a particular client system and later  
5 authenticates the hardware of the client system based on the digital signature associated with the hardware. When these techniques are combined with authenticating the destination server based on a digital certificate and authentication the encryption of communications between a browser of the a client system and the a destination server, an authenticated identity for an application user may be provided to the application and the  
10 need for the application to request and authenticate a user identifier and password is eliminated.